

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 01427 220115Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----077452 220118Z /62  
O 220107Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6749  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 01427

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM ENDERS

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PLOS  
SUBJECT: LOS: DEEP SEABED MINING

REF: STATE 70414

1. SUMMARY. IN RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S LETTER,  
JAMIESON WILL ASK BEESLEY TO ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT WITH  
AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON CONCEPT INVOLVING PROSPECTIVE  
LIMITATIONS U.S. CAN LIVE WITH IN RETURN FOR PROTECTION  
ON SUBSIDY ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

2. SAW JAMIESON THIS AFTERNOON (MARCH 21) TO DELIVER  
SECRETARY'S LETTER AND TO EMPHASIZE OUR WILLINGNESS TO  
MAKE MAJOR EFFORT TO DEVELOP MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE UNDER-  
STANDING ON DEEP SEABED MINING. SUCH AN UNDERSTANDING,  
I NOTED, MIGHT BE INCORPORATED IN THE COMPREHENSIVE  
TREATY ITSELF OR IN A BILATERAL (U.S.-CANADA) OR PLURI-  
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 01427 220115Z

LATERAL AGREEMENT, SEPARATE FROM THE TREATY.

3. JAMIESON INDICATED THAT HE WOULD INSTRUCT BEESLEY  
TO WORK CLOSELY WITH RICHARDSON ON THIS MATTER, BUT HE  
NOTED THAT A U.S.-CANADIAN BILATERAL UNDERSTANDING  
WOULD NOT SUFFICE AS IT WOULD FAIL TO MEET CANADIAN  
CONCERNS ABOUT SUBSIDIZATION BY THE JAPANESE AND THE

EUROPEANS. EVEN AN ARTICLE IN THE COMPREHENSIVE TREATY OR A SEPARATE MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT COULD BE A PROBLEM AS IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE IF THE JAPANESE WERE IN FACT NOT INVOLVED IN SUBSIDIZATION. JAMIESON ALSO STRESSED THAT, IN VIEW OF CURRENT LAYOFFS IN SUDBURY MINING AREA, CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO TREAD CAREFULLY TO AVOID APPEARING TO BE GIVING AWAY A GREATER PERCENTAGE FOR SEABED MINING.

4. JAMIESON ASKED WHETHER U.S. COULD ACCEPT THE EVENSEN APPROACH. I TOLD HIM I COULDN'T SPEAK TO THAT, BUT NOTED THAT EVENSEN ALREADY INVOLVED IN TIGHT LIMITATION ON PROSPECTIVE PRODUCTION.

5. JAMIESON SAID THAT HE HAD DETECTED A GROWING FEELING IN CERTAIN QUARTERS THAT THE USG WAS NO LONGER REALLY INTERESTED IN A COMPREHENSIVE TREATY. THIS, I RESPONDED, WAS CLEARLY A MISTAKEN PERCEPTION AS WE DEFINITELY PREFER TO SEE AGREEMENT ON SUCH A TREATY EMERGE FROM GENEVA. THE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS RICHARDSON INTENDS TO MAKE TO BEESLEY ARE DESIGNED TO OVERCOME ONE OF OUR MAJOR CONCERNS ABOUT THE SEABED PROVISIONS IN THE CURRENT NEGOTIATING TEXT, AND THESE PROPOSALS ARE PART OF OUR EFFORT TO HELP ACHIEVE AGREEMENT ON A COMPREHENSIVE TREATY.

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PAGE 03 OTTAWA 01427 220115Z

6. JAMIESON REVEALED THAT CANADIANS HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT SITUATION WHICH WOULD DEVELOP IF IT WERE NOT POSSIBLE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON COMPREHENSIVE TREATY. SPECIFICALLY, HE WONDERED WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SALVAGE OTHER PARTS OF TREATY IF NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED IN GENEVA ON SEABED MINING, AND SAID THAT BEESLEY THOUGHT IT PROBABLY COULD. HE ALSO RECOGNIZED THAT AN AGREEMENT AMONG SEABED MINING STATES WOULD BE NECESSARY IN ANY EVENT.

7. AT CLOSE JAMIESON AGREED THAT OUR TWO NEGOTIATORS SHOULD BE ASKED TO TRY BILATERALLY AND IMMEDIATELY TO SEE WHETHER THEY CAN AGREE ON A CONCEPT THAT WOULD INCLUDE PROSPECTIVE LIMITATIONS ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S. AND PROTECTION FOR CANADA AGAINST SEABED SUBSIDIZATION. IF THIS COULD NOT BE ACCOMPLISHED IN COMPREHENSIVE TREATY ITSELF, NEGOTIATORS SHOULD DEVELOP A "PLURILATERAL" APPROACH OR SERIES OF BILATERALS THAT WOULD BE SEPARATE FROM, BUT SUPPORTIVE OF A COMPREHENSIVE TREATY. HE WILL REPLY TO THE SECRETARY AND SO CABLE BEESLEY.

8. COMMENT. AS OFTEN, JAMIESON WAS MORE POSITIVE

THAN HIS SUBORDINATES. BUT HE IS NOW CLEARLY READY  
FOR THE PROPOSALS AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON WILL PUT  
FORWARD.  
ENDERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SEABED, MINING, NEGOTIATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
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